

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 088523
ORIGIN IO-13

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CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 088523

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, USUN, KS, KN

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 32ND GA: CORE GROUP

REF: A) SEOUL 3086 B) STATE 87367

1. ROKG PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF NACC MEETING IN NEW DELHI
ON KOREAN ISSUE (REF A) GENERALLY COINCIDES WITH OUR VIEWS.
POSSIBILITY OF OTHER RESERVATIONS ON NACC PARA ON KOREA,
HELPFUL ROLE BY INDIA, APPARENT ALGERIAN RELUCTANCE TO BACK
NORTH KOREAN CAUSE AND LATTER'S COMPARATIVELY SUBDUED
LOBBYING EFFORTS ALL CONTRIBUTE TO TENTATIVE CONCLUSION
THAT PYONGYANG MAY NOT PRESS ISSUE AT 32ND GA. NORTH
KOREAN MEDIA ATTENTION TO NACC EVENT ALSO HAS BEEN RELATIVE-
LY MILD, AS IF THEIR OWN EXPECTATIONS WERE LIMITED.

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PAGE 02 STATE 088523

2. DESPITE THESE ENCOURAGING SIGNS THAT KOREAN ISSUE MAY
NOT BE ON THE 32ND GA AGENDA, WE BELIEVE THAT EARLY CORE
GROUP MEETING WOULD BE USEFUL AND APPROPRIATE. PARTICI-
PANTS COULD SIMPLY EXCHANGE ASSESSMENTS, EVALUATE OUT-
COME OF NACC MEETING, REVIEW CURRENT STATUS OF NORTH
KOREAN INTENTIONS AND DISCUSS FUTURE STRATEGY. WE

ENVISAGE INITIAL STAFF-OFFICER LEVEL MEETING IN NEW YORK TO AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION THAT ROK SUPPORTERS WANT TO DEBATE ISSUE AGAIN. AT SAME TIME, NORTH KOREA'S SUPPORTERS WOULD BECOME AWARE THAT CORE GROUP WAS STILL VIABLE MECHANISM TO BE ACTIVATED SHOULD CONDITIONS WARRANT.

3. ACCORDINGLY, YOU SHOULD INFORM APPROPRIATE MOFA OFFICIALS THAT WE ARE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN WORKING LEVEL CORE GROUP MEETING IN NEW YORK TOWARD END OF APRIL OR EARLY MAY. IF ROKG WISHES PROCEED WE ASSUME THEY WILL ISSUE INVITATIONS AND THAT ROK UN MISSION OFFICER WOULD CHAIR MEETING, AS LAST YEAR. WE WOULD FAVOR AGENDA ALONG LINES SUGGESTED PARA 2 ABOVE. YOU SHOULD OBTAIN ROKG THOUGHTS ON THIS SCENARIO AND ESPECIALLY, IN VIEW OF EXPRESSED JAPANESE INTEREST IN KOREAN QUESTION (REF B), HOW WE MIGHT INCLUDE GOJ IN DECISION TO RESUME CORE GROUP MEETINGS. OUR PREFERENCE IS TO EXPLORE THIS IDEA SOON WITH ROK AND GOJ MISSIONS IN NEW YORK, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE ROKG VIEWS BEFORE PROCEEDING. (FYI WE UNDERSTAND THAT ROK UN MISSION OFFICER, WHO CHAIRED CORE GROUP MEETINGS LAST YEAR, WILL BE ABSENT FROM NEW YORK UNTIL LATE APRIL ATTENDING ICAO MEETING IN MONTREAL.)

4. APPRECIATE REPORT SOONEST ON ROKG PLANS.

5. FOR USUN: IF ASKED BY ROKUN, YOU MAY INDICATE WHAT WE ARE TELLING MOFA IN SEOUL WITH REGARD TO OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD CORE GROUP MEETING. OTHERWISE, WOULD SUGGEST DELAY IN APPROACHING ROK AND JAPANESE MISSIONS UNTIL AFTER
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PAGE 03 STATE 088523

SEOUL'S REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE.

6. FOR TOKYO: SHOULD SEOUL'S REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE SO INDICATE, YOU SHOULD AS APPROPRIATE INFORM MOFA OF OUR (AND ROK) DESIRE TO HOLD EARLY CORE GROUP MEETING AND THAT WE LOOK FORWARD TO ACTIVE JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN NEW YORK TO GET PLANNING UNDERWAY.

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